HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Happy New Year and welcome to 2013! A new year is upon us, and so is another season of fun and exciting events for Danish Club members. Already on January 8th we have our first activity of the new year, the reception with Danish artist Mie Olise at Barbara Davis Gallery on Montrose Boulevard. The DCH is co-hosting this free event with the DACCSW, providing members with an opportunity to meet world-class artist Mie Olise.

On January 17th interested members of the Houston Danish community can meet at the Museum of Fine Arts to view the Scandinavian Design Exhibit – this informal tour will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by dinner at Café Express (next door to the Museum). Registration is not necessary; entrance fee and dinner are not included.

The Danish Immigrant Museum will hold its annual Board Meeting in Houston on February, 7-10 and will be inviting us all to a banquet on the 9th – watch your Inbox for details!

And for those who like to plan ahead, please reserve April 6th for a Texas-style BBQ at the home of Honorary Consul Ray Daugbjerg and wife Cherry in Brenham, Texas.

Based on feedback it looks like many of you are interested in seeing more Danish movies, so we will get another movie night on the calendar this Spring. We’re also discussing plans for a Pinse Picnic, another “Let’s Meet & Eat” dinner, and many other activities. As always, if you’re interested in helping with these events or have suggestions for other activities, please get in touch with any of the Board members. A willingness to volunteer is always appreciated!

We’re still working out some final details on the new website, but hopefully you are finding the improved resources useful. One of the big advantages is that members can now update their contact information any time, which will help tremendously in keeping us in touch!

Finally, as this is a New Year, please remember to log in to DCH’s website and renew your membership. It’s still a bargain at $20 per family!

LET’S MEET & EAT

WHAT DANES DO BEST

On September 25, 2012 the Danish Club of Houston hosted the “Let’s Meet & Eat” event at Sorrel Urban Bistro prepared by Danish chef Søren Pedersen. It was a wonderful evening filled with cheers, good Danish food and great company. The Board of Directors was pleasantly surprised by the number of people attending from the Danish community in Houston. Approximately 60 people attended the dinner and it was a big encouragement for the Board of Directors to host similar events in the future.

We started the evening with drinks and social mixing while also registering all the attending guest and pretty much ended it the same way! Sorrel had prepared a large section of the restaurant for our gathering with 8 tables set in red and white symbolizing our Danish roots serving Americanized Danish dishes. Our first course was Tarts with Chicken and Asparagus, the second course was Pork Medallions with Mushroom Gravy and New Potatoes and last but not least we were treated with Citronfromage for dessert. It was truly a wonderful evening with much joy and laughter because we did what Danes do best “enjoy and live life” which often is expressed by many international medias that “Danes are the happiest people in the world” and we are! This wonderful evening would not have been able to happen without the tremendous work and involvement of Alexandra Hernández-Nørgaard and Frances Steffensen!

Please join us again the next time we host a “Let’s Meet & Eat” dinner.
The Danish Club of Houston invites you to dine at Sorrel Urban Bistro and meet fellow Danes of all ages.

1st Course
Tarteletter med kylling og asparges

Main Course
Svine mørbrad med champignon a la crème, nye kartofler og grønne ærter

Dessert
Citron fromage

WHEN?
Tuesday, September 25, 2012 | Drinks @ 6.30 pm | Dinner @ 7.00 pm

WHERE?
Sorrel Urban Bistro | 2202 West Alabama | Houston, TX 77098

RESERVATIONS?
RSVP with payment by September 10, 2012 | Danish Club of Houston c/o Frances Steffensen | 14354 Broadgreen Dr | Houston, TX 77079

Price per person: Members $38 | Non-members $48 incl. tax and gratuity | Does not include drinks

Chef Søren Pedersen adding the finishing touches

Mira Bush, Anna Thomsen Holliday, Alexandra Hernández-Nørgaard

Mogens Holst, Jan Ibse, Marianne Holst, Helle Bradsted, Lone Johansen

A view of our gathering

Svine mørbrad med champignon a la crème, nye kartofler og grønne ærter

Danish Club of Houston
About 2 dozen members of the Danish Club met on Saturday, October 13th, for a private tour of the No Label Brewing Company in Katy.

The weather was great and we had a shaded corner of the property all to ourselves. Brewery partner Brian Royo gave Club members a tour of the company’s new facilities, beginning with a stop at the bar to choose any one of the brewery’s beverage selections. Among the choices were No Label’s seasonal “Black Wit-O” and a special Belgian Wheat beer made just for the Club!

Afterwards the tour members socialized while listening to a local band, enjoying lunch, and sampling a few more No Label products. A great assortment of delicious home-made desserts was available throughout the afternoon, courtesy of Mira Bush. Mange tak, Mira!
About 90 members and guests attended the Club’s Annual Christmas Party on December 1st at the Nottingham Forest Club in west Houston. Red and white gløgg was served during the social hour which began at 6:00 p.m., followed by dinner in the big hall downstairs at 7:00 p.m. Local chef Søren Pedersen of Sorrel Urban Bistro put together a delicious buffet table of typical Danish delicacies for all to enjoy, beginning with herring and salmon, salad, homemade breads, and a main course including leverpostej, roast beef, ham, medisterpølse, rib roast, and assorted vegetables, and then coffee and ris à l’amande for dessert. Kransekage was imported for the event and proved to be a popular dessert item as well. Everyone enjoyed the raffle which included a vast assortment of items donated by various companies and club members, and helped to raise money for upcoming events.

The Board would like to thank Ghislaine and Henrik Thomsen for heading the Christmas Party Committee, and Stephanie Thomsen for her great work in soliciting donations for the raffle. Also a special thanks to Anna Thomsen Holliday for...
again taking the microphone and MC’ing the event! Without the help of members like these it would not be possible to have such a wonderful celebration!

It’s not too early to start thinking about next year’s party, so please contact any of the Board Members if you are interested in helping with next year’s celebration!

Thanks to Bath Junkie, Belle la Vie Boutique, Carlsberg, the Danish Immigrant Museum, Events Boutique, Home Koncepts, IKEA, No Label Brewing Company, Nirvana Indian restaurant, Ragin’ Cajun, Saint Arnold Brewery, Wrist Ship Supply, Anna Thomsen Holliday, Carl and Frances Steffensen, and Ghislaine and Henrik Thomsen for their generous donations to the raffle.

2012 JULETRÆSFEST

Vikingeskolen and the DCH co-hosted a children’s “Juletræsfest” at Stepping Stones School on December 15th. Despite threatening rain clouds, about 75 children and adults attended the party which began with an assortment of traditional activities, including decorating cookies and oranges, papirklip, and much more. This year, young Kathrine Kiersted was chosen to be “Lucia”. She lead the procession of approximately thirty children of various ages, as proud parents and grandparents looked on while everyone sang “Santa Lucia”. Later everyone gathered around the Christmas tree and the children danced around the tree and sang Danish Christmas carols, until Santa arrived with goodie bags for all the children. Anna Holliday, Honorary Vice Consul of Denmark, held a speech explaining the new passport rules and the opportunity for Danes to arrange confirmations in Houston (please contact Anna to sign up). Anna also generously donated $100 to the school which was received with great appreciation.
And finally, parents Rasmus, Pia and Anders contributed with Risalamande for everyone with real Danish kirsebærsovs. Our thanks go out to the whole DCH and Vikingskolen board and parents for putting on this event and Stepping Stones for hosting us. Among all the IKEA furniture, and our Danish Christmas traditions, it almost felt like being in Denmark. For more information about Vikingskolen, contact 832.660.6496 or vikingeskolen@gmail.com.

**2012 JULEGUDSTJENESTE**

More than 80 members of Houston’s Danish community braved sporadic heavy rain to attend the Julegudstjeneste at the Norwegian Seaman’s Church in Pasadena on December 16th. Pastor Andrés Albertsen from the Danish Seaman’s Church in New York flew down to officiate at the service, which included the baptism of Sofie Bak Hansen and lovely music interpreted by Kari Ødelund Danielsen. After the service everyone
enjoyed the cozy atmosphere and had their fill of æbleskiver, cookies, coffee, hot chocolate and juice. Thanks to the generosity of attendees we were able to donate over $300 to both the Norwegian and Danish Seaman's churches after the service.

Special thanks to Ericka Lawson for once again spearheading the Æbleskiver Committee, and to all of the people who volunteered to make the Æbleskiver. And an extra-special thanks to Ericka and DCH Vice President Mira Bush for going the extra mile and also bringing klejner, brunkage, and banana-nut bread for all to enjoy!

WELCOME TO THE DANISH CLUB OF HOUSTON!

Peter Agerskov & Leslie Anne Jensen
Lars Andresen
Klaus & Tenna Beldring
Peter Bentzen & Patricia García Cárdenas
Helle Bradstø & Jan Ibso
Nicole Calderon
Nicole Caldwell
Mette & Eydstein Egholm
Frantz & Louise Ekmann
Marianne & Mogens Holst
Katrine Howard
Robin & Mogens Johansen
Lene & Regan LaPoint
Nasir Manori
Kenneth & Cynthia Mogensen
Steen Pedersen & Anne Olsen
Anders & Nicole Pedersen
Flemming Serensen
Steffen Stensgaard

FACTS ABOUT THE DANISH CLUB

Board of Directors
Carl K. Steffensen, President
Mira Bush, Vice-President
Frances Steffensen, Treasurer
Neil Olsen, Secretary
Ole Serensen, Activity Coordinator
Alexandra Hernández-Nørgaard, Activity Coordinator

For more information:
info@danishclubofhouston.org

Website:
www.danishclubofhouston.org

T-shirts:
The Club is still selling T-shirts with our logo. We now have childrens’ T-shirts and baby onesies along with the adult size shirts. Please, visit our website if interested.

Newsletter:
This newsletter is e-mailed to members in good standing and selected friends of the Danish-American community in Houston.